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17 APR 1953
REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1953.
Issued by the Deputy Government Statistician (Mr. C. R. Muirson), Perth
1st April, 1953.

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POPULATION ESTIMATE

Whole State at 30th September, 1952: Males - 313,109; Females - 294,304; Persons - 607,413
Metropolitan Area at 30th June, 1952: Persons - 337,000.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

	JANUARY		12 Months Ended DECEMBER.	
	1953	1952	1952	1951
Marriages - Number.	450	573	5,389	5,390
*Rate per 1000 of Population.	8.64	11.42	8.95	9.27
Births - Number.	1,361	1,354	15,413	14,794
*Rate per 1000 of Population.	26.13	26.98	25.61	25.44
Deaths - Number.	385	436	5,209	5,288
*Rate per 1000 of Population.	7.39	8.69	8.65	9.09
Infant Mortality - Number.	32	45	384	425
*Rate per 1000 Live Births.	23.51	33.23	24.91	28.73
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH -				
Tuberculosis.	5	6	82	83
Malignant neoplasms.	57	61	689	686
Diabetes mellitus.	2	5	42	58
Diseases of blood etc.	1	-	28	21
Cerebral haemorrhage etc.	42	54	611	594
Diseases of the heart.	127	114	1,538	1,502
Hypertension with heart disease.	14	11	162	214
Hypertensive disease without mention of heart	4	7	73	88
Arteriosclerosis.	9	21	188	213
Influenza.	1	-	23	24
Pneumonia.	14	23	179	188
Bronchitis.	3	3	40	46
Other respiratory disease.	3	6	72	61
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	4	3	38	46
Gastro-enteritis and colitis.	3	4	32	55
Chronic enteritis and ulcerative colitis.	1	-	11	9
Cirrhosis of the liver.	2	-	22	29
Nephritis and nephrosis.	2	9	86	88
Diseases of the prostate.	6	6	62	61
Maternal causes	1	3	18	16
Diseases of early infancy.	15	28	232	264
Motor vehicle accidents.	5	15	188	174
Other accidents	17	13	213	209
Suicide	4	7	81	81
All other causes.	43	37	499	478
Total.	385	436	5,209	5,288

* Equivalent Annual Rate.
* Deaths under one year.

Page No.	Item No.	Item Description
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This report is published monthly by the Bureau of Government Statistics, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. The data are derived from the various statistical agencies of the Government and are subject to revision as more complete information becomes available.

Item No.	Item Description	1950	1951
1	General Information	100	100
2	Population	100	100
3	Births and Deaths	100	100
4	Marriages and Divorces	100	100
5	Immigration and Emigration	100	100
6	Unemployment	100	100
7	Income and Taxes	100	100
8	Health and Vital Statistics	100	100
9	Education	100	100
10	Transportation	100	100
11	Finance and Banking	100	100
12	Industry and Commerce	100	100
13	Public Works and Utilities	100	100
14	Defense and Armaments	100	100
15	Foreign Relations	100	100
16	Other	100	100
17	Other	100	100
18	Other	100	100
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91	Other	100	100
92	Other	100	100
93	Other	100	100
94	Other	100	100
95	Other	100	100
96	Other	100	100
97	Other	100	100
98	Other	100	100
99	Other	100	100
100	Other	100	100

LAND SETTLEMENT.

Land taken up under conditional alienation during the two months ended February, 1953 totalled 166,678 acres, an increase of 28,449 acres on the corresponding period last year. Pastoral, special and miscellaneous leases registered amounted to 1,372,781 acres, an increase of 1,082,779.

STATE GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

	Month of FEBRUARY		8 Months ended FEBRUARY	
	1953	1952	1953	1952
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Revenue.	3,067,125	2,540,526	23,270,711	21,036,668
Revenue per Head of Population	£4. 19.10	£4. 5. 6	£38. 5. 6	£35. 15. 4
Expenditure	3,139,057	2,827,825	25,134,485	22,191,098
Expenditure per Head of Population	£5. 2. 2	£4. 15. 2	£41. 6. 10	£37. 14. 7

SAVINGS BANKS

Depositor's Balances on the 28th February, 1953, amounted to £48,365,061 or £78. 12. 10d. per head of population as against £46,348,005 or £77. 18. 3d. per head as at the 29th February last year.

BANK CLEARANCES

The average weekly clearance for the 4 weeks ended 25th February, 1953 amounted to £12,978,327 compared with £13,244,997 for the corresponding period last year.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Registrations effected at the Office of Land Titles and Deeds		FEBRUARY		8 Months Ended FEBRUARY	
		1953	1952	1953	1952
Transfers.	No.	1,788	1,843	13,221	15,401
	£.	2,392,371	2,378,087	15,023,614	20,474,286
Mortgages.	No.	1,368	1,233	9,631	10,443
	£.	1,815,534	1,580,218	13,731,846	14,374,129
Discharges of Mortgages.	No.	1,007	912	7,040	7,420

SALES TAX: SALES OF TAXABLE AND EXEMPT GOODS AND

TAX COLLECTED

Period of Receipt of Returns	Taxable Goods		Sales of Exempt Goods.	Tax Collected.
	Sales in respect of which Tax is Payable. (Net)	Sales in respect of which Tax is NOT Payable. (Gross)		
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Eight months ended FEBRUARY, 1953.	23,275,886	16,457,323	55,099,314	3,555,662
Eight months ended FEBRUARY, 1952.	22,711,620	18,159,920	55,671,852	3,580,673
Month of FEBRUARY, 1953.	3,199,689	1,839,424	6,850,467	410,768
Month of FEBRUARY, 1952.	2,218,885	1,711,663	6,729,805	508,531

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COMPANIES REGISTERED

74 Local Companies, with a nominal capital of £4,295,100, and 37 Foreign Companies were registered during the eight months ended February, 1953. Registrations for the corresponding period last year comprised 56 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £3,581,500 and 45 Foreign Companies.

BANKRUPTCY

	Eight months ended February.					
	1953			1952		
	No.	Liabilities	Assets	No.	Liabilities	Assets
		£.	£.		£.	£.
Sequestration Orders.	27	98,145	48,078	13	29,553	31,707
Deeds of Assignment. (a)	18	99,374	115,803	8	20,415	11,728
Deeds of Arrangement.	-	-	-	1	1,978	1,015

(a) Includes Compositions and Schemes of Arrangement.

TRANSPORT

The operations of the State Government Railways, open for General and Passenger traffic, were as follows:-

	JANUARY		7 Months Ended JANUARY	
	1953 /	1952	1953 /	1952
Gross Earnings. (a) * £.	792,700	798,600	4,036,800	5,645,600
Working Expenses. (a) £.	1,120,483	877,458	6,568,454	6,085,397
Train Miles Run. No.	565,370	629,508	2,596,312	4,256,131
Motor Bus Miles Run. No.	(b) 172,191	(b) 162,733	(c) 1,159,095	(c) 1,055,931
<u>Passenger Journeys -</u>				
Train. No.	489,117	868,959	2,857,457	6,370,535
Motor Bus. No.	55,224	51,726	386,260	340,135
<u>Tonnage Carried -</u>				
Paying Goods.	250,474	260,852	1,196,189	1,784,166
Livestock.	10,906	10,466	83,225	87,133
Departmental (Free Freight).	45,225	61,942	304,645	465,641
Total.	306,605	333,260	1,584,059	2,336,940
<u>Net Ton Mileage of -</u>				
Paying Goods.	41,306,896	42,323,114	184,479,878	275,372,246
Livestock.	1,289,641	1,219,189	10,774,543	11,365,795
Departmental (Free Freight)	6,580,295	7,694,585	42,820,516	54,299,577
Total.	49,176,832	51,236,888	238,074,937	341,037,618

(a) Includes operations of the Railway Road Service.

(b) Four weeks ended 10th January.

(c) Period ended 10th January.

* Figures liable to revision.

/ Figures reflect result of Metal Trade Strike.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(1) NEW VEHICLES REGISTERED (EXCLUDING COMMONWEALTH-OWNED) VEHICLES.

	METROPOLITAN AREA				ENTIRE STATE			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities.	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Year 1950	4,664	1,901	86	1,214	9,325	5,660	150	2,390
Year 1951	4,263	2,088	51	1,886	7,914	5,730	101	3,192
Year 1952	4,088	2,006	74	1,121	8,068	5,471	112	1,939
1952 - January	290	148	1	140	602	398	3	237
1953 - January	272	94	-	80	492	296	5	119

(2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN USE (EFFECTIVE REGISTRATIONS). *

Date (as at end of Month)	METROPOLITAN AREA				ENTIRE STATE			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1950 - June	28,529	12,530	443	7,707	48,485	41,688	826	12,890
1951-- June	32,966	14,461	499	8,876	56,109	46,150	950	14,521
1952 - January	35,934	15,770	498	9,834	59,073	46,524	915	14,934
February	36,069	15,824	501	9,867	60,178	48,141	950	15,357
March	36,377	15,964	507	9,907	60,967	48,676	963	15,507
April	36,863	16,133	507	9,953	62,146	49,462	962	15,796
May	37,050	16,210	509	9,894	62,999	50,354	973	15,902
June	37,873	16,368	522	9,952	64,180	50,897	988	16,041
July	38,683	16,721	522	10,110	63,573	49,705	999	14,950
August	38,845	16,769	524	10,094	63,968	50,001	1,001	14,977
September	39,156	16,857	525	10,123	64,573	50,346	1,005	15,075
October	39,410	16,975	532	10,100	64,915	50,360	993	15,113
November	39,621	17,070	539	10,156	65,712	51,347	1,007	15,431
December	40,194	17,259	539	10,280	66,904	52,156	1,012	15,766

* Excluding Commonwealth-Owned Vehicles which comprised for December, 1952:-
96 Cars; 775 Wagons, Vans, etc.; 11 Buses and 6 Motor Cycles.

TRADE (INTERSTATE AND OVERSEA).

Trade of Western Australia, January, 1953 and 1952, and seven months ended January, 1953 and 1952, expressed in terms of Australian Currency:-

	IMPORTS				EXPORTS (Including Ships' Stores)			
	JANUARY		7 Months ended JANUARY		JANUARY		7 Months ended JANUARY	
	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952
Oversea	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Interstate	2,626	8,085	17,796	37,490	8,106	5,236	52,911	44,997
	4,967	4,725	38,910	36,929	1,897	1,177	14,384	6,855
Total.	7,593	12,810	56,706	74,419	10,004	6,413	67,295	51,852

TABLE 1. NEW VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS (EXCLUDING MOTORCYCLES) - VEHICLES

METROPOLITAN AREA				ENTIRE STATE			
Year	Cars (In-cluding Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Motor Cycles	Year	Cars (In-cluding Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Motor Cycles
1950	4,584	1,901	1,814	1950	9,555	3,830	2,330
1951	4,283	2,088	1,885	1951	7,914	3,130	2,132
1952	4,088	2,005	1,701	1952	8,068	3,571	1,939
1953	290	148	140	1953	602	398	237
1954	272	94	60	1954	491	30	119

TABLE 2. MONTHLY NEW VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS (EXCLUDING MOTORCYCLES) *

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1950	35,934	35,000	35,124	35,177	35,118	35,135	35,120	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100
1951	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100
1952	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100
1953	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100
1954	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100

* The data for the months of January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December, 1950-1954, are based on the monthly reports of the State Department of Transportation.

TABLE 3. MONTHLY NEW VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS (EXCLUDING MOTORCYCLES) *

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1950	35,934	35,000	35,124	35,177	35,118	35,135	35,120	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100
1951	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100
1952	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100
1953	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100
1954	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100	35,100

* The data for the months of January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December, 1950-1954, are based on the monthly reports of the State Department of Transportation.

BUILDING ACTIVITY.

(1) NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED

Period.	Dwellings				Factories.		Other.		Total.	
	Owner-Built.		By Contractors etc. (a)							
	No.	Value	No.	Value.	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000
Year 1946	55	32	1,316	1,221	52	82	145	192	1,568	1,527
Year 1947	165	109	2,245	2,380	37	64	164	327	2,611	2,880
Year 1948	514	346	2,544	3,041	49	160	268	431	3,375	3,978
Year 1949	825	693	2,485	3,476	57	215	317	657	3,684	5,041
Year 1950	1,313	1,365	3,331	4,727	41	263	428	651	5,113	7,006
Year 1951	1,913	2,835	4,137	6,969	40	459	433	986	6,523	11,249
Year 1952	2,883	5,824	4,946	11,201	63	667	604	2,242	8,496	19,934
1952 -										
March Qr.	586	1,103	898	1,779	14	185	121	399	1,619	3,466
June Qr.	737	1,296	1,175	2,458	9	103	128	428	2,049	4,285
Sept. Qr.	669	1,451	1,400	3,470	19	170	141	644	2,229	5,735
Dec. Qr.	891	1,974	1,473	3,494	21	209	214	771	2,599	6,448

(a) Comprises Government Day Labour as well as Private Contractor operations, and includes Shop Dwellings, Flats and other Residentials excluded from Table (2) hereunder.

(2) HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

(Including Owner-Built Homes)

	Houses Completed - Classified According to Materials of Outer Walls.									
	Brick, Stone, Concrete, etc.		Wood, or Mainly Wood.		Fibro-Cement or Mainly Fibro-Cement.		Other Material.		Total	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000
Year 1946	578	640	186	140	373	296	227	172	1,364	1,248
Year 1947	1,114	1,365	257	196	966	862	62	47	2,399	2,470
Year 1948	1,252	1,715	326	249	1,436	1,348	29	22	3,043	3,334
Year 1949	1,449	2,235	228	191	1,571	1,649	42	43	3,290	4,118
Year 1950	1,709	2,882	337	311	2,262	2,572	55	48	4,363	5,813
Year 1951	2,155	4,560	453	525	2,933	4,241	190	218	5,731	9,544
Year 1952	3,006	8,097	745	1,609	3,844	6,678	135	263	7,730	16,647
1952 -										
March Qr.	559	1,374	113	171	769	1,255	36	70	1,477	2,870
June Qr.	732	1,858	138	245	986	1,542	43	87	1,899	3,732
Sept. Qr.	792	2,200	248	614	961	1,751	39	90	2,040	4,655
Dec. Qr.	923	2,665	246	579	1,128	2,130	17	16	2,314	5,390

BUTTER PRODUCTION IN FACTORIES

393,876 lbs. were produced during February, 1953, and 12,682,402 lbs. for the eight months ended February, 1953, as against 336,084 lbs. and 12,731,099 lbs. respectively for the corresponding periods for 1952.

GOLD PRODUCTION

	February.		2 Months Ended February	
	1953	1952	1953	1952
Quantity Fine Oms.	59,265	47,632	117,589	103,777
Value (Aust. Currency) *£.	918,115	737,891	1,821,640	1,607,673

* Excludes premium on gold sold for industrial purposes.

Dividends reported by Gold Mining Companies for the twelve months ended December, 1952, amounted to £1,079,372. Dividends reported for the corresponding period of 1951 amounted to £1,000,469.

RETAIL PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

(Base of Each Series:- Weighted Average of Six Capitals for 1923/27 = 1000).

	Food and Groceries.				All Items of Household Expenditure ("C" Series).			
	DECEMBER QUARTER.		12 Months Ended DECEMBER.		DECEMBER QUARTER.		12 Months Ended DECEMBER.	
	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951
Metropolitan Area.	2439	2134	2359	1963	2225	1989	2170	1860
Kalgoorlie-Boulder.	2647	2286	2556	2105	2324	2078	2262	1940
Northam.	2521	2175	2429	1995	2253	1991	2186	1870
Bunbury.	2505	2178	2415	1991	2255	2012	2195	1870
Geraldton.	2566	2216	2473	2033	2364	2090	2293	1956
Collie.	2524	2174	2432	1991	2146	1916	2085	1785

ESTIMATED TOTAL EMPLOYMENT

(Excluding Rural and Private Domestic)

Figures supplied by Commonwealth Statistician.

Month	1952			1953		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
January	127,021	40,611	167,632	127,573	39,805	167,378
February	127,314	41,319	168,633			
March	127,666	41,367	169,033			
April	126,905	41,326	168,231			
May	126,734	41,110	167,844			
June	126,001	40,564	166,565			
July	125,215	40,408	165,623			
August	125,577	40,115	165,692			
September	125,235	40,272	165,507			
October	126,306	40,389	166,695			
November	126,330	40,541	166,871			
December	126,684	40,719	167,403			

EMPLOYMENT INDEX SERIES

	<p>FACTORIES (Base: 1928/29 (19,799 Employees = 100))</p>					<p>RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS (b) (Base: July, 1941 (9,578 Employees = 1000))</p>				
	1949	1950	1951(a)	1952(a)	1953(a)	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
January	179	194	208	213	209	1354	1410	1490	1540	1538
February	182	197	212	212		1358	1387	1495	1536	
March	186	200	215	212		1371	1415	1513	1522	
April	187	200	215	209		1377	1415	1508	1517	
May	187	203	216	207		1354	1418	1500	1512	
June	187	202	215	205		1362	1429	1517	1495	
July	182	204	216	204		1381	1423	1517	1497	
August	189	204	215	207		1377	1419	1510	1488	
September	190	204	212	206		1365	1428	1518	1485	
October	191	206	214	207		1375	1431	1522	1507	
November	192	207	214	208		1402	1450	1537	1519	
December	194	207	213	209		1470	1531	1587	1574	

(a) Figures subsequent to June, 1951 are preliminary and are based primarily on Pay Roll Tax Returns.

(b) Indexes computed by Commonwealth Statistician from Pay Roll Tax Returns.

STATE BASIC WAGE

Date of Operation.	Metropolitan Area.			South-West Land Division.			Goldfields and Rest of State.		
	Male			Female			Male.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
27th January, 1953.	*11.1	0	6	*7.15	0	12.0	6	7.16	4
	12.	5.	9	7.19	9				

* From 27th October, 1952.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - METROPOLITAN AREA

(Generated by W.A. Government Power Stations)

Particulars	FEBRUARY		8 Months Ended FEBRUARY	
	1953	1952	1953	1952
Units Generated (1000 K.W.H.)	27,757,300	26,964,700	226,904,400	210,663,900
Units Sent Out (1000 K.W.H.)	24,792,920	23,382,500	200,973,920	183,009,000

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS IN PRINCIPAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Period	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
February, 1953	6,515	293	96,417	9,051
February, 1952.	6,680	379	80,660	10,901
2 Months ended February, 1953.	13,714	770	205,921	18,464
2 Months ended February, 1952.	12,463	793	165,889	20,592

